

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Makoto HOSOYA Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned  
Appl. No. : 10/597,684 (National Stage Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
of PCT/JP2005/001612)  
I.A. Filed : February 3, 2005 Confirmation No. : 4840  
For : WATER-PURIFYING SOLID MATERIAL MADE OF A NATURAL RAW  
MATERIAL CONTAINING POLYSACCHARIDES AS PRINCIPAL  
COMPONENTS, AND WATER-PURIFYING METHOD USING THE SAME

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98.

Applicant hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001612, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report (in English and Japanese) was filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) WO 01/70637 A1, along with patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0084376 to MATSUMURA et al., which was published on May 6, 2004;
- (2) JP 2000-153293 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (3) JP 11-114593 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (4) JP 2002-273471 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (5) JP 2000-254687 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and
- (6) JP 2001-096130 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicant further brings to the attention of the Examiner the following documents:

- (7) JP 9-234493 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited beginning at page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application; and
- (8) JP 2001-269699 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited beginning at page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application. Applicant further

notes that this document of a family member of above-noted document (1).

Applicant further submits a copy of a Notification of Transmittal of Copies of Translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (including Forms PCT/IB/338, PCT/IB/373 and PCT/ISA/237) with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001612, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Above-note documents (1) – (4) were cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability, as ascertained by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

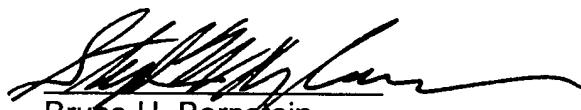
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign and international documents, including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the

submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the charging of any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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November 9, 2006  
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